

OPINIONS AND DECLARATIONS RENDERED BY THE INTER- NATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

Edited by

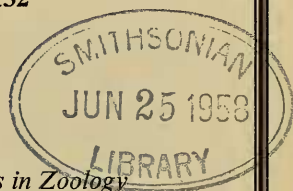
FRANCIS HEMMING, C.M.G., C.B.E.

Secretary to the Commission

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OPINION 518

Addition to the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology*
of the generic name *Euryrhynchus* Miers, [1878] (Class
Crustacea, Order Decapoda)



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INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

COMPOSITION AT THE TIME OF THE ADOPTION OF THE RULING GIVEN IN OPINION 518

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(12th August 1953)

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(Arranged in order of precedence by reference to date of election or of most recent re-election,
as prescribed by the International Congress of Zoology)

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Mr. P. C. SYLVESTER-BRADLEY (*Sheffield University, Sheffield, England*) (12th August 1953).

Dr. L. B. HOLTHUIS (*Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie, Leiden, The Netherlands*)
(12th August 1953).

Dr. K. H. L. KEY (*Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation,
Canberra, A.C.T., Australia*) (15th October 1954).

Dr. Alden H. MILLER (*Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, University of California, U.S.A.*)
(29th October 1954).

Doc. Dr. Ferdinand PRANTL (*Národní Museum V Praze, Prague, Czechoslovakia*) (30th
October 1954).

Professor Dr. Wilhelm KÜHNELT (*Zoologisches Institut der Universität, Vienna, Austria*)
(6th November 1954).

Professor F. S. BODENHEIMER (*The Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel*) (11th November
1954).

OPINION 518

ADDITION TO THE "OFFICIAL LIST OF GENERIC NAMES IN ZOOLOGY" OF THE GENERIC NAME "EURYRHYNCHUS" MIERS, [1878] (CLASS CRUSTACEA, ORDER DECAPODA)

RULING :—(1) It is hereby directed that in accordance with the provisions of *Declaration* 39 the gender to be attributed to the generic name *Euryrhynchus* Miers, [1878] (Class Crustacea, Order Decapoda) is the masculine gender.

(2) The under-mentioned generic name is hereby placed on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* with the Name Number 1274 :—

Euryrhynchus Miers, [1878] (gender : masculine)
(type species, by monotypy : *Euryrhynchus wrzesniowskii* Miers, [1878])

(3) The under-mentioned specific name is hereby placed on the *Official List of Specific Names in Zoology* with the Name Number 1524 :—

wrzesniowskii Miers, [1878], as published in the combination *Euryrhynchus wrzesniowskii* (specific name of type species of *Euryrhynchus* Miers, [1878]).

(4) The under-mentioned generic name is hereby placed on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology* with the Name Number 1161:—

Euryrhynchus Nitzsch, 1829 (an Erroneous Subsequent Spelling for *Eurynorhynchus* Nilsson, 1821)

(5) The under-mentioned family-group name is hereby placed on the *Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology* with the Name Number 235 :—

EURYRHYNCHINAE Holthuis (L.B.), 1950 (type genus : *Euryrhynchus* Miers, [1878]).

I. THE STATEMENT OF THE CASE

On 21st September 1951 Dr. L. B. Holthuis (*Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie, Leiden, The Netherlands*) submitted the following application in which he asked that the International Commission should use its Plenary Powers to validate the generic name *Euryrhynchus* Miers, [1878] (Class Crustacea, Order Decapoda) by suppressing the older name *Euryrhynchus* Nitzsch, 1829 (Class Aves), a name treated in the application as an Invalid Emendation of *Eurynorhynchus* Nilsson, 1821¹ :—

Proposed validation under the Plenary Powers of the generic name
“*Euryrhynchus*” Miers, [1878] (Class Crustacea, Order Decapoda)

By L. B. HOLTHUIS
 (*Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie, Leiden, The Netherlands*)

In carcinological literature the generic name *Euryrhynchus* Miers, [1878] (*Proc. zool. Soc. Lond.* 1877 : 662) (type species, by monotypy :

¹ The name *Eurynorhynchus* Nilsson, 1821 (Class Aves) was placed on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* as Name No. 54 by the Ruling given in *Opinion* 67 (1916, *Smithson. Publ.* 2409 : 177—182).

Euryrhynchus wrzesniowskii Miers, [1878], *Proc. zool. Soc. Lond.* 1877 : 662) has been used to indicate a small genus of fresh water shrimps inhabiting Northern Brazil and the three Guianas. Of this genus only two species are known and not more than ten authors have dealt with it seriously. Nevertheless, it is rather important, since it is the type genus of the subfamily EURYRHYNCHINAE belonging to the family PALAEMONIDAE. The name *Euryrhynchus* is the only generic name ever employed for the genus and the present spelling has been adopted by all authors, though Von Martens, 1879 (*Zool. Rec.* 14 Crust. : 21) in writing the name as *Euryr[r]hynchus* showed his preference for having it written with two r's after the first y.

In 1829 the name *Euryrhynchus* was given by Nitzsch (1829, *Obs. Avium. Art. carot. comm.* : 18) as an intentional or unintentional substitute for the generic name *Eurynorhynchus* Nilsson (1821, *Ornith. suec.* 2(1) : 29) (type species, by monotypy: *Platalea pygmaea* Linnaeus, 1758, *Syst. Nat.* (ed. 10) 1 : 140) to a genus of birds. Dr. G. C. A. Junge, curator of birds of the Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie, Leiden, was so kind to inform me that the generic name *Eurynorhynchus* Nilsson at present still is commonly used in ornithological literature and that the name *Euryrhynchus* Nitzsch seems not to have been used except by Nitzsch in his anatomical publication. So, for instance, Peters 1934 (*Check-List of Birds of the World* 2 : 282) does not even cite the name *Euryrhynchus* under *Eurynorhynchus*. Unfortunately I have not had the opportunity to examine Nitzsch's book, but it seems very probable that his name *Euryrhynchus* is nothing but a clerical error for *Eurynorhynchus*; Ridgway, 1919 (*Bull. U.S. Nat. Mus.* 50(8) : 303), however, clearly indicates *Euryrhynchus* Nitzsch as an emendation of *Eurynorhynchus* Nilsson.

During the Thirteenth International Congress of Zoology it was decided that the principles which are to be observed in interpreting Article 34 of the *Règles* and which are laid down in *Opinion* 148, should be inserted in the *Règles* (1950, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 4(7/9) : 163). According to these principles "a generic name is to be rejected as a homonym, where the word of which that name consists has previously been published as an emendation, whether valid or invalid, of another generic name". It is clear therefore that in the present case the generic name *Euryrhynchus* Miers, [1878], is invalidated by the name *Euryrhynchus* Nitzsch, 1829.

In my opinion it is highly desirable that the generic name *Euryrhynchus* Miers, [1878], be preserved, since it has been accepted by all authors dealing with this genus and so has been unchallenged during the 74 years of its existence. On the other hand the name *Euryrhynchus* Nitzsch, which probably was created by error or by

carelessness, almost certainly has been used by its original author only. I accordingly recommend that the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature should :—

(1) use its Plenary Powers :—

(a) to suppress the generic name *Euryrhynchus* Nitzsch, 1829 (an invalid emendation of *Eurynorhynchus* Nilsson, 1821), for the purposes of the Law of Priority and for those of the Law of Homonymy, and

(b) to validate the generic name *Euryrhynchus* Miers, [1878] ;

(2) place on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* the generic name *Euryrhynchus* Miers, [1878] (gender of generic name : masculine) (type species, by monotypy : *Euryrhynchus wrzesniowskii* Miers, [1878]), as validated under (1)(b) above ;

(3) place on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology* the generic name *Euryrhynchus* Nitzsch, 1829, as suppressed under (1)(a) above ;

(4) place on the *Official List of Specific Trivial Names in Zoology* the trivial name *wrzesniowskii* Miers, [1878], as published in the combination *Euryrhynchus wrzesniowskii* (trivial name of type species of *Euryrhynchus* Miers, [1878]).

II. THE SUBSEQUENT HISTORY OF THE CASE

2. Registration of the present application : Upon the receipt in 1951 of Dr. Holthuis' application the question of the validation of the generic name *Euryrhynchus* Miers, [1878] (Class Crustacea, Order Decapoda) was allotted the Registered Number Z.N.(S.) 616.

3. Publication of the present application : The present application was sent to the printer on 30th January 1952 and was published on 23rd July of that year in Part 9 of Volume 6 of the

Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature (Holthuis, 1952, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 6 : 269—270).

4. Issue of Public Notices : Under the revised procedure prescribed by the Thirteenth International Congress of Zoology, Paris, 1948 (1950, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 4 : 51—56), Public Notice of the possible use by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature of its Plenary Powers in the present case was given on 23rd July 1952 (a) in Part 9 of Volume 6 of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* (the Part in which Dr. Holthuis' application was published) and (b) to the other prescribed serial publications. In addition, such Notice was given to four general zoological serial publications.

5. Comments received during the Prescribed Six-Month Waiting Period : During the Prescribed Six-Month Waiting Period following the publication of Dr. Holthuis' application comments were received from two specialists. Of these one supported Dr. Holthuis' proposals, while the other expressed opposition thereto. The communications so received are reproduced in the immediately following paragraphs.

6. Support received from Ricardo Zariquiey (Barcelona, Spain) : On 25th February 1953 Dr. Ricardo Zariquiey (*Barcelona, Spain*) addressed a letter to the Office of the Commission in which he supported a number of applications by Dr. Holthuis which had recently been published in the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature*. The following extract is that which bears upon the present case :—

He recibido las Commission's References Z.N.(S.) 616 . . . propuestas por el Dr. L. B. Holthuis, estando en todo conforme con las proposiciones del citado Doctor.

.

7. Objection received from K. S. Misra (Zoological Survey of India, Calcutta, India) : On 22nd January 1953 Dr. K. S. Misra (*Zoological Survey of India, Calcutta, India*) addressed a letter to the Office of the Commission in which he commented on a

number of applications which had recently been published in the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature*. The portion of the letter giving Dr. Misra's objections to the action proposed in the present case is as follows :—

Euryrhynchus Miers, [1878], is a homonym of *Euryrhynchus* Nitzsch, 1829, a genus of birds and thus it should be invalidated by the name *Euryrhynchus* Nitzsch, 1829.

8. Postponement in January 1953 of the submission of a Voting Paper in relation to the present case until after the meeting at Copenhagen in August 1953 of the Fourteenth International Congress of Zoology : At the close in January 1953 of the Prescribed Six-Month Waiting Period following publication in the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature*, the problems raised by the present case were reviewed by the Secretary who then took the view that, as the central feature involved was the status of a senior homonym consisting of a name published as an emendation of a name belonging to an entirely different group, it would be more satisfactory if, instead of at once submitting a Voting Paper to the Commission in this case, action were to be deferred until after the meeting at Copenhagen in July-August of that year of the Fourteenth International Congress of Zoology, having regard to the fact that by direction of the Thirteenth International Congress of Zoology, Paris, 1948, the whole question of the provisions to be included in the *Règles* relating to the emendation of zoological names was to be considered by the coming Congress. Accordingly, on 23rd January 1953 Mr. Hemming as Secretary executed a Minute directing (1) that no further action be taken on the present case until after the close of the Copenhagen Congress in August of that year and (2) that, as soon as could conveniently be found practicable after the above date the present case should be re-examined for the purpose of determining whether any, and, if so, what, amendment of the proposals submitted in it was called for in the light of the decisions taken by the above Congress.

9. Review in October 1953 of the proposals in regard to the generic name “*Euryrhynchus*” Miers, [1878], submitted by Dr. L. B. Holthuis in September 1951 : In accordance with the provisions of the Minute executed by the Secretary on 23rd

January 1953 the proposals regarding the generic name *Euryrhynchus* Miers, [1878], submitted by Dr. Holthuis in September 1951 were reviewed jointly by the Secretary and Dr. Holthuis in October 1953 in the light of the revised provisions relating to the emendation of names inserted in the *Règles* by the Fourteenth International Congress of Zoology, Copenhagen (1953, *Copenhagen Decisions zool. Nomencl.* : 43—45, Decisions 70—73). It was immediately apparent that the distinction recognised by that Congress between an Invalid Emendation and an Erroneous Subsequent Spelling, the former possessing status under the Law of Priority and the latter possessing no such status, made it necessary definitely to establish whether the name *Euryrhynchus* Nitzsch, 1829, the suppression of which under the Plenary Powers had been asked for by Dr. Holthuis, fell in the first, or in the second of the above categories. This examination was carried out by Mr. Hemming who was fortunately able to consult a copy of Nitzsch's rare work preserved in the library of the Zoological Society of London. This examination showed conclusively that the above name as used by Nitzsch was not an intentional emendation of the name *Eurynorhynchus* Nilsson, 1821, as it had been believed to be by Dr. Holthuis at the time when he submitted his original application but was either an Erroneous Subsequent Spelling for Nilsson's generic name or, less probably, a *nomen nudum*. In either case the name *Euryrhynchus* Nitzsch, 1829, possessed no status under the decisions taken by the Copenhagen Congress. Accordingly, that name did not invalidate the name *Euryrhynchus* Miers, [1878], in the Class Crustacea. That name was therefore already an available name and no action under the Plenary Powers was required to secure its protection.

10. Submission in October 1953 of a Revised Application prepared jointly by Mr. Hemming and Dr. Holthuis : At the conclusion of the review described in the preceding paragraph it was agreed between Dr. Holthuis and Mr. Hemming that in the altered circumstances what was required was a revised application to be submitted to the Commission in substitution for the application originally submitted in September 1951, in which account would be taken of the changes brought about by the decisions taken by the Copenhagen Congress. Accordingly on 30th October 1953 the following Revised Application was

submitted jointly by Mr. Hemming and Dr. Holthuis in substitution for the application previously submitted by the latter specialist in September 1951 :—

Proposed modification of the application submitted to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature regarding the generic name "Euryrhynchus" Miers, [1878] (Class Crustacea, Order Decapoda)

By FRANCIS HEMMING, C.M.G., C.B.E.

(*Secretary to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature*)

and

L. B. HOLTHUIS

(*Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie, Leiden, The Netherlands*)

(Note dated 30th October 1953)

In his application to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature published in July 1952 (*Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 6 : 269—270) Holthuis asked for the use of the Plenary Powers for the purpose of validating the name *Euryrhynchus* Miers, [1878] (the type genus of the subfamily EURYRHYNCHINAE of the family PALAEMONIDAE) (Class Crustacea, Order Decapoda) by suppressing the senior homonym *Euryrhynchus* Nitzsch, 1829 (Class Aves), an unaccepted emendation or variant spelling of the name *Eurynorhynchus* Nilsson, 1821.

2. At the time when the foregoing application was prepared, the meaning to be attached to the provision (Article 19) of the *Règles* relating to the emendation of names was by no means clear and Plenary action by the Commission was the only assured means for securing a solution of the kind sought in Holthuis' application.

3. In August 1953 the Fourteenth International Congress of Zoology at its meeting held at Copenhagen cancelled the existing Article 19 and inserted in its place comprehensive provisions for regulating (and limiting) the emendation of names. After the Copenhagen Congress it became necessary to review the application submitted in regard

to the names *Euryrhynchus* Nitzsch, 1829, and *Euryrhynchus* Miers, [1878], in order to ascertain whether the action proposed was in any way affected by the decisions taken by the Copenhagen Congress.

4. In his original application Holthuis explained that he had been unable personally to consult Nitzsch's work of 1829 and was therefore not in a position to state whether the spelling "*Euryrhynchus*" used by Nitzsch in place of the spelling "*Eurynorhynchus*" used by Nilsson when establishing the genus so named was, on the one hand, a deliberate emendation of Nilsson's name or, on the other hand, only an unexplained or accidental variation of that name. In the light of the Copenhagen decisions, it became essential that the position in regard to this matter should be definitely established, for, if the spelling *Euryrhynchus* was a deliberate emendation by Nitzsch of the spelling originally used by Nilsson, the name *Euryrhynchus* would have status in nomenclature as a separate name (ranking from Nitzsch, 1829), while, if the spelling variant used by Nitzsch could not be shown from the original publication to be a deliberate emendation, that spelling would rank only as an "Erroneous Subsequent Spelling", would possess no status in nomenclature and would not preoccupy the name *Euryrhynchus* Miers, [1878], for the purposes of the Law of Homonymy.

5. An exchange of correspondence between the present authors led Holthuis, who had still been unable to obtain access to a copy of Nitzsch's *Observationes* of 1829, to ask the other author, if possible, to examine a copy in one of the large zoological libraries in London. Investigation showed that there was a copy of this rare work in the library of the Zoological Society of London. This copy has now been examined by Hemming who has furnished the following Report :—

I examined this morning (28th October 1953) the copy of Nitzsch's *Observationes* in the library of the Zoological Society of London. It is a small quarto work of 26 pages—hardly more than a pamphlet—and its subject matter is purely anatomical, as may be judged by its full title which is : "*Observationes de Avium Arteria Carotide communi*". On the basis of the observations so brought forward, Nitzsch divided the birds into four main groups, which he styled "*Caput Primum*", "*Caput Secundum*", etc.

The group with which we are concerned is Nitzsch's "*Caput Tertium*". As in the case of the other "*Capita*", Nitzsch divided his "*Caput Tertium*" into a number of sub-divisions. Of these, the third main sub-division (Sub-Division "*C*") Nitzsch styled "*Aves Carinatae Aquaticae*". This unit Nitzsch further subdivided, his first sub-unit being given the title "*Grallae*"

Linn.". Within this sub-unit Nitzsch recognised a number of "familiae". The following is a quotation from the entry relating to the seventh of these *familiae* :—

7. *Limicolae* (olim *scolopacinae* [sic] nobis nuncupatae), quarum genera : *Ibis*, *Numenius*, *Limosa*, *Machetes* Cuv., *Tringa* (cum qua *Calidris* utique coniungenda), *Phalaropus*, *Euryrhynchus*, *Strepsilas*, *Recurvirostra*, . . .

The foregoing passage is on page 18 of Nitzsch's work and is the only place in it where he refers to the name *Euryrhynchus*. It is true that at a later point (in the account given for "Caput Quartum") Nitzsch referred (: 22) again to what he called the "Limicolarum familia", but on this occasion the list of genera enumerated is shorter and does not include *Euryrhynchus*.

The particulars furnished above show quite clearly that the alleged name *Euryrhynchus* Nitzsch is not an Emendation, as that term is defined under the Copenhagen decisions, for, as will be seen, there is nothing whatever to show that Nitzsch was deliberately emending the spelling of the name *Eurynorhynchus* Nilsson. Indeed, although it is probable that that was the genus to which Nitzsch was referring, even that must be regarded as conjectural in view of the fact that (contrary to what he had done when citing the name *Machetes*) Nitzsch cited no author for the name "*Euryrhynchus*".

6. In view of the information contained in the foregoing Report, we now see that, under the Copenhagen decisions, the so-called name *Euryrhynchus* Nitzsch, 1829, is not an Emendation, being no more than an Erroneous Subsequent Spelling and that, since as such it possesses no status in zoological nomenclature, it does not invalidate the name *Euryrhynchus* Miers, [1878], under the Law of Homonymy. The problem involved in the application submitted by Holthuis thus becomes much simpler, for the name *Euryrhynchus* Miers, [1878], is now seen to be an available name and no action under the Plenary Powers is called for. It is likely, however, that, unless some action is taken by the International Commission, the ghost of the Erroneous Subsequent Spelling *Euryrhynchus* Nitzsch, 1829, may continue to haunt the literature. In the circumstances, the following revised proposal is submitted to the International Commission in substitution for the application originally submitted by Holthuis, namely that the International Commission should :—

- (1) place the name *Euryrhynchus* Miers, [1878] (gender of name : masculine) (type species, by monotypy : *Euryrhynchus wrzesniowskii* Miers, [1878]) on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* ;
- (2) place the name *wrzesniowskii* Miers, [1878], as published in the combination *Euryrhynchus wrzesniowskii* (specific name of type

species of *Euryrhynchus* Miers, [1878]) on the *Official list of Specific Names in Zoology* ;

- (3) place the alleged name *Euryrhynchus* Nitzsch, 1829 (either an Erroneous Subsequent Spelling of *Eurynorhynchus* Nilsson, 1821, or a *nomen nudum*) on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology*.

11. Publication in February 1954 of Revised Application submitted in October 1953 : The revised application submitted in October 1953 was sent to the printer on 30th October of that year and was published on 26th February 1954 in Part 12 of Volume 6 of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* (Hemming & Holthuis, 1954, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 6 : 367—369).

12. A Comment received during the Prescribed Six-Month Waiting Period following the publication of the Revised Application submitted in October 1953 : Only one comment was received during the Six-Month Waiting Period following the publication on 26th February 1954 of the Revised Application submitted jointly by Mr. Hemming and Dr. Holthuis. This was a communication from Professor Dr. E. M. Hering (*Zoologisches Museum der Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin*), who took exception to the proposal that the masculine gender should be assigned to the generic name *Euryrhynchus* Miers, [1878], pointing out that under Decision 84 of the Copenhagen Congress the gender attributable to generic names having the termination “*-rhynchus*” was the neuter gender.²

13. Proposed addition to the “Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology” of a family-group name based on the generic name “*Euryrhynchus*” Miers, [1878] : In September 1954 correspondence took place between Mr. Hemming and Dr. Holthuis on a further point arising out of a decision by the Copenhagen Congress, namely the family-group name aspect of the present case. It was then agreed between the joint applicants

² For later developments in the matter of the gender to be attributed to the generic name *Euryrhynchus* Miers, [1878], see paragraphs 19 and 20 below.

that the Commission should be invited, when dealing with this case, to complete the action required by placing the family-group name EURYRHYNCHINAE Holthuis (L.B.), 1950 (*Siboga Exped. Mon.* 39 (a.9) : 1, 2) on the *Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology*.

14. Preparations in November 1954 for the submission of a Voting Paper in the present case : On 18th November 1954 the Secretary prepared the Voting Paper (V.P.(54)86) to be submitted to the Commission in the present case. In Note 3 attached to this Voting Paper attention was drawn to the communication received from Professor Hering (paragraph 12 above) and it was recommended that the proposal submitted in the matter of gender be amended as there suggested, while in Note 4 a recommendation was submitted for the addition of the family-group name EURYRHYNCHINAE Holthuis, 1950 (paragraph 13 above), to the *Official List* of names for taxa of the family-group category.

III. THE DECISION TAKEN BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

15. Issue of Voting Paper V.P.(54)86 : On 26th November 1954 a Voting Paper (V.P.(54)86) was issued in which the Members of the Commission were invited to vote either for, or against, "the proposal relating to the generic name *Euryrhynchus* Miers, [1878], as set out in Points (1) to (3) in paragraph 6 on page 369 of Volume 6 of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* [i.e. in the paragraph numbered as above in the paper reproduced in paragraph 10 of the present *Opinion*] subject to the correction specified in Note 3 and the addition specified in Note 4 [i.e. subject to the correction and addition referred to in paragraph 14 of the present *Opinion*].

16. The Prescribed Voting Period : As the foregoing Voting Paper was issued under the Three-Month Rule, the Prescribed Voting Period closed on 26th February 1955.

17. Particulars of the Voting on Voting Paper V.P.(54)86 : At the close of the Prescribed Voting Period, the state of the voting on Voting Paper V.P.(54)86 was as follows³ :—

(a) *Affirmative Votes had been given by the following twenty-one (21) Commissioners (arranged in the order in which Votes were received) :*

Holthuis ; Hering ; Lemche ; Stoll ; Bradley (J.C.) ; Vokes ; Esaki ; Dymond ; Bonnet ; Riley ; Boschma ; Miller ; Key ; Jaczewski ; Hankó ; do Amaral ; Hemming ; Bodenheimer⁴ ; Cabrera ; Kühnelt ; Sylvester-Bradley ;

(b) *Negative Votes :*

None ;

(c) *On Leave of Absence, two (2) :*

Mayr ; Mertens ;

(d) *Voting Papers not returned :*

None.

³ Between the time of the issue of Voting Paper V.P.(54)86 and the close of the Prescribed Voting Period the following zoologists were elected to be Commissioners :—

Professor Ernst Mayr (*Museum of Comparative Zoology at Harvard College, Cambridge, Massachusetts, U.S.A.*) (4th December 1954)

Professor Enrico Tortonese (*Museo di Storia Naturale "G. Doria", Genova, Italy*) (16th December 1954)

⁴ Commissioner Bodenheimer exercised in this case the right conferred by the Thirteenth International Congress of Zoology in Paris, 1948, under which a Commissioner may, if he so desires, signify his willingness to support the view, or the majority view, of other members of the Commission (1950, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 4 : 50—51).

18. Postponement in February 1955 of the Declaration of the Result of the Vote on Voting Paper V.P.(54)86, pending the completion of the review by the Commission under Copenhagen Decision 85 of the Gender Rules provisionally prescribed under Decision 84 of the Copenhagen Congress : At the time of the close in February 1955 of the Prescribed Voting Period in respect of Voting Paper V.P.(54)86 there appeared to be a possibility that at a fairly early date the Commission would be in a position to carry out under Decision 85 of the Copenhagen Congress the review which it had been charged to make of the gender rules provisionally laid down by that Congress in its Decision 84. Among the classes of name to be covered by that review were names having the termination “-rhynchus”, as regards which it was laid down in the decision referred to above that the gender to be attributed was the neuter gender. Already by the beginning of 1955 evidence had accumulated in the Office of the Commission that the general practice of specialists in all the groups for which information was available had been to treat names having the above termination as being of the masculine gender, that is, the gender which had been attributed to the name *Euryrhynchus* Miers, [1878], in the application submitted in the present case. Further, in response to representations received from interested specialists proposals for the use of the Plenary Powers to validate the attribution of the masculine gender to certain generic names having the termination “-rhynchus”, which had been placed on the *Official List* in the period up to the end of 1936, were in process of being formulated for submission to the Commission. In these circumstances Mr. Hemming took the view that, if the result of the vote on Voting Paper V.P.(54)86 were at once to be declared and an *Opinion* promulgated in which, as there agreed upon, the neuter gender was attributed to the generic name *Euryrhynchus* Miers, an anomalous and undesirable situation might develop if as the result of the review of Copenhagen Decision 84 the Commission were to rule that the gender to be attributed to names having the termination “-rhynchus” was the masculine, and not the neuter, gender or if, while upholding the Copenhagen rule in this matter, the Commission were to use its Plenary Powers to validate the attribution of the masculine gender to the names ending in “rhynchus” which had been placed on the *Official List* in the period referred to above, for the situation as regards those names did not differ in any respect

from that arising in connection with the name *Euryrhynchus* Miers. Accordingly, Mr. Hemming, as Secretary, concluded that the proper course would be to defer the Declaration of the Result of the Vote on Voting Paper V.P.(54)86, pending the completion of the review by the Commission of the gender rules provisionally adopted by the Copenhagen Congress, and on this account he executed on 27th February 1954 a Minute directing that the Declaration of the Result of the Vote on the foregoing Voting Paper be so deferred.

19. Adoption in February 1958 of a "Declaration" reviewing under Copenhagen Decision 85 the Gender Rules provisionally prescribed by the Copenhagen Congress in its Decision 84 : The investigations and consultations involved in the preparation of the material required to enable the Commission to carry out under Copenhagen Decision 85 the review which it had been charged to undertake of the Gender Rules provisionally prescribed by Copenhagen Decision 84 proved unexpectedly arduous and by the late summer of 1957 it was evident that there was no immediate prospect of assembling the whole of the material which would be needed by the Commission for the purpose of the prescribed review. Already by that date, however, the material relating to certain of the Rules involved, including those concerned with the gender to be attributed to names having the terminations "*-gnathus*" and "*-rhynchus*" respectively, was as complete as, it was judged, it was possible to secure. The decision then recently taken that the first instalment of the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* should be published without further delay made it a matter of great urgency that a decision should be taken by the Commission on the gender to be attributed to generic names having the above terminations, ten of which had been placed on the *Official List* in the period up to the end of 1936. It was accordingly decided to invite the Commission to adopt an Interim Report on those parts of the Gender Rules included in Copenhagen Decision 84, including in particular the Rules relating to the names having the terminations "*-gnathus*" and "*-rhynchus*", the material relating to which was considered to be complete. Accordingly, a paper on this subject bearing the Registered Number Z.N.(S.) 1277 was submitted to the Com-

mission on 7th November 1957, together with a Voting Paper bearing the Number V.P.(57)61. In the paper so submitted grounds were advanced in support of the conclusion that the Gender Rules in regard to names having the above terminations set out in Copenhagen Decision 84 were incorrect and that the gender properly applicable to names having the above terminations was the masculine gender. The Prescribed Voting Period in respect of the above Voting Paper expired on 6th February 1958. It was then found that the Commission had approved and adopted the recommendations submitted to it in the paper referred to above, including the proposals for the attribution of the masculine gender to names having the terminations specified above. The Result of the Vote on Voting Paper V.P.(57)61 was declared on 7th February 1958 and later on the same day the decision so declared was embodied in a *Declaration* which it was directed should be known as *Declaration 39*.⁵

20. Adoption in February 1958 of a Ruling regarding the gender to be attributed to certain generic names having the terminations “-gnathus” and “-rhynchus”, including the generic name “Euryrhynchus” Miers, [1878] : Simultaneously with the submission to the Commission of the paper recommending the adoption of certain Rulings on the gender to be attributed to generic names of various classes referred to in the immediately preceding paragraph a second paper (bearing the Registered Number Z.N.(S.) 1278) was submitted in which the Commission was recommended to direct that the generic names having the terminations “-gnathus” and “-rhynchus” respectively which had been placed on the *Official List* in the period up to the end of 1936 should be treated as being masculine in gender, if on the Vote to be taken on Voting Paper V.P.(57)61 the Commission were to rule that the above was the gender properly applicable to names having the foregoing terminations. With this second paper a Voting Paper numbered V.P.(57)62 was issued to the Commission in order to place it in a position to give a direction in the sense proposed simultaneously with the issue of a *Declaration* in the terms recommended in the paper submitted

⁵ *Declaration 39* is being published in the immediately preceding Part (Part 4) of the present volume.

with Voting Paper V.P.(57)61, if on that Voting Paper the Commission were to decide in favour of the adoption of such a *Declaration*. At the time when the second of the two papers referred to above was in preparation it was judged desirable to include with the names of genera having the termination “-rhynchus” which had been placed on the *Official List* in the period up to the end of 1936 the generic name *Euryrhynchus* Miers, [1878], the promulgation of a decision taken on which had (as explained in paragraph 18 above) been delayed since February 1955, in order to make it possible for the Commission to re-examine and, if necessary, to modify in the light of its review of the Gender Rules provisionally adopted by the Copenhagen Congress in its Decision 84 the gender which it had been decided to attribute to this name by the vote taken on the Voting Paper (V.P.(54)86) relating mainly to other aspects of that case. The Prescribed Voting Period in respect of Voting Paper V.P.(57)62 expired on 6th February 1958, when it was found that by the vote taken on that Voting Paper the Commission had approved the attribution of the masculine gender to the generic names submitted therewith, including the generic name *Euryrhynchus* Miers, [1878], contingently upon an affirmative vote having been given on the proposal submitted with Voting Paper V.P.(57)61 for the adoption of a *Declaration* on the question of principle involved. Since, as explained in paragraph 19 above, the Commission had by that date voted in favour of the adoption of a *Declaration* in the sense recommended, the decision in favour of the attribution of the masculine gender to the ten names having either the termination “-gnathus” or the termination “-rhynchus” which had been placed on the *Official List* in the period up to the end of 1936 and also to the generic name *Euryrhynchus* Miers, [1878], given contingently by the vote taken on Voting Paper V.P.(57)62 became definitive forthwith. The result of the vote so taken on Voting Paper V.P.(57)62 was thereupon formally declared by the Secretary, acting as Returning Officer for the vote taken on the said Voting Paper. At the same time the Secretary signed a Certificate that the proposal submitted in the foregoing Voting Paper had been duly adopted and that the decision so taken was the decision of the International Commission in the matter aforesaid. At this point consideration was given to the question of the procedure to be adopted for promulgating the decision so taken, having regard to the fact

that ten of the names covered by that decision had been placed on the *Official List* in the period up to the end of 1936, whereas the eleventh name (*Euryrhynchus* Miers) had not as yet been placed on that *List*, although a decision that it should be so placed had been taken by the Commission in February 1955. This question was determined by a Minute executed by the Secretary on 7th February 1958 in which directions were given (a) that the decision in regard to the ten generic names already placed on the *Official List* should be promulgated in a *Direction* and (b) that the decision in relation to the gender to be attributed to the name which had not as yet been placed on the *Official List*, i.e. the generic name *Euryrhynchus* Miers, should be promulgated in the *Opinion* to be rendered for the purpose of placing that name on the *Official List* in pursuance of the decision taken by the Commission by its vote on Voting Paper V.P.(54)86.

21. Declaration of Result of Vote on Voting Paper V.P.(54)86 :

On 7th February 1958 Mr. Hemming, Secretary to the International Commission, acting as Returning Officer for the Vote taken on Voting Paper V.P.(54)86, signed a Certificate that the Votes cast were as set out in paragraph 17 above and declaring that the proposal submitted in the foregoing Voting Paper had been duly adopted, save as respects the gender to be attributed to the generic name *Euryrhynchus* Miers, [1878], as regards which the decision taken on the above Voting Paper had been revoked and replaced by the Vote taken on Voting Paper V.P.(57)62, and that the decision taken on Voting Paper V.P.(54)86, as modified in the respect specified above by the vote taken on Voting Paper V.P.(57)62, was the decision of the International Commission in the matter aforesaid.

22. Preparation of the Ruling given in the present " Opinion " :

On 8th February 1958, Mr. Hemming prepared the Ruling given in the present *Opinion* and at the same time signed a Certificate that the terms of that Ruling were in complete accord with those of the proposal approved by the International Commission in its Vote on Voting Paper V.P.(54)86, save as respects the gender to be attributed to the generic name *Euryrhynchus* Miers, [1878], as regards which the decision taken

on the said Voting Paper had been revoked and replaced by the Vote taken on Voting Paper V.P.(57)62 in the terms specified in the Ruling prepared for the present *Opinion*.

23. Original References for Generic and Specific Names : The following are the original references for the generic and specific names placed on *Official Lists* and *Official Indexes* by the Ruling given in the present *Opinion* :—

Euryrhynchus Nitzsch (C.L.), 1829, *Obs. Avium Art. carot. comm.* : 18

Euryrhynchus Miers, [1878], *Proc. zool. Soc. Lond.* 1877 : 662

wrzesniowskii, *Euryrhynchus*, Miers, [1878], *Proc. zool. Soc. Lond.* 1877 : 662

24. Original References for Family-Group Names : The following is the original reference for the family-group name placed on the *Official List* of names of that category by the Ruling given in the present *Opinion* :—

EURYRHYNCHINAE Holthuis (L.B.), 1950, *Siboga Exped. Mon.* 39 (a.9.) : 1, 2)

25. The expression “specific” name : At the time of the submission of the present application the name applicable to the second portion of a binomen was “trivial name”. This was altered to “specific name” by the Fourteenth International Congress of Zoology, Copenhagen, 1953, which at the same time made corresponding changes in the titles of the *Official List* and *Official Index* of names of this category. These changes in terminology have been incorporated in the Ruling given in the present *Opinion*.

26. Compliance with Prescribed Procedures : The prescribed procedures were duly complied with by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature in dealing with the present case, and the present *Opinion* is accordingly hereby rendered in the name of the said International Commission by the

under-signed Francis Hemming, Secretary to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, in virtue of all and every the powers conferred upon him in that behalf.

27. "Opinion" Number : The present *Opinion* shall be known as *Opinion* Five Hundred and Eighteen (518) of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature.

DONE in London, this Eighth day of February, Nineteen Hundred and Fifty-Eight.

*Secretary to the International Commission
on Zoological Nomenclature*

FRANCIS HEMMING